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State Representative Dan Ellis

Dist. 18

Dan Ellis was born on October 28, 1959 in Livingston, Texas. Dan's parents are Billie and Clarence Ellis, and also reside in Livingston. Dan graduated from Livingston High School in 1978. On January 2, 1982, he married his wife of 18 years, Vivian Bea Helmontoller at the First Baptist Church of Goodrich, Texas. They have two sons, Sean and Kristopher.

Upon graduation from high school, Dan went to work in Houston for approximately one year and then returned to Livingston where he went to work for the City of Livingston. During the next ten years he was recognized for his leadership and planning abilities, and after four years was promoted to Street Foreman. At this time he was responsible for budgeting of the department, public relations, street maintenance and new construction. Today, Dan manages Livingston Physical Therapy, a business he and his wife started while he was still working for the City of Livingston. In 1990 the business called for his personal attention and he left the City to manage the clinic. This change in job status also allowed Dan the freedom to become even more active in his community.

Dan has been heavily involved with the Polk County Chamber of Commerce, serving on the Board of Directors from 1993-1997. He also served as

Chamber President in 1996. While serving on the Chamber Board, Dan became involved in tourism development, economic development, youth activities and activities promoting the Highway 190 corridor, as well as the I-69 project. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Lake Livingston Area Tourism Council since 1990. This organization is made up of members from Walker, San Jacinto, Polk and Trinity counties, and promotes the entire Lake Livingston area for tourism development.

He was also instrumental in the marking of the Trinity River Channel on Lake Livingston in 1994, as well as the habitat restoration program of 1997. The latter made possible a restocking program by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department that marked the first lake-stocking of Florida bass since 1984. These two programs will continue to affect the economy of the lake area for years to come.

Currently, Dan is serving on several boards and councils. He serves as chairman of the Polk County Crime Stoppers, a member of the Criminal Justice Advisory Council for the 258th and 411th District Courts, a member of the board of the Livingston Memorial Hospital Foundation, a member of the Polk County Advocacy executive board under the Polk County Court of Law, and a member the Deep East Texas Council of Governments Tech Prep Partnership.

Dan has received several awards for his efforts, some of which are the Texas Black Bass Presidents Award for Conservation, the Polk County Chamber Award for Tourism Development, and the Home Town Spirit Award.

Dan has been active in Texas politics for a number of years. He has long term relationships with Texas Parks and Wildlife, Texas Department of Transportation, the Trinity River Authority, Texas Water Development Board, to name a few.

Bea Ellis, Dan's wife, currently serves as a trustee on the Livingston Independent School District and is serving a third term on the Board of Directors of the Polk County Chamber of Commerce.

Dan is a member of First Baptist Church of Livingston, where he sings in the choir and teaches Sunday School. He is also a member of the Livingston Rotary Club, the Polk County Farm Bureau, and the National Rifle Association.

On November 3, 1998, Dan was elected to his first term as State

Representative of House District 18. He is now in his second term. Dan serves on the House Corrections Committee, where he serves as a member of the Select Committee on the Windham School District, and is a senior member on the State Recreational Resources Committee. He also serves on the American Legislative Exchange Council and the Legislative Action Committee for Criminal Justice.

